

Perlas ng SILANGAN BALITA



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LTO summons drivers over viral road incident

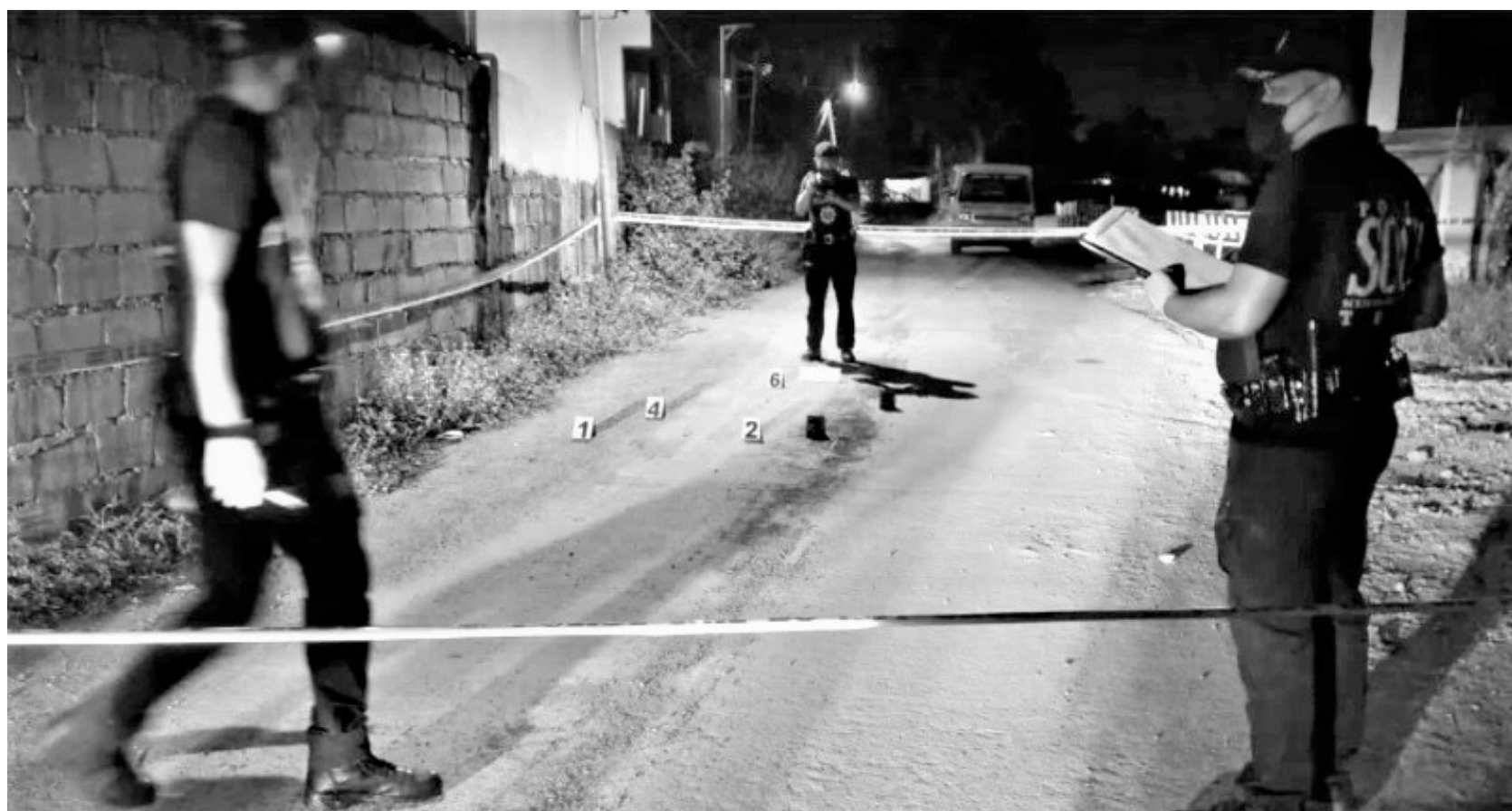
The Land utility vehicle and Transportation a public utility bus Office (LTO) has involved in a viral summoned the driver road rage incident and owner of a sports **Turn to page 2**

Schneider Electric shifts Cavite operations to 100% renewable energy through partnership

Schneider Electric facilities in the marking a significant The shift was made with ACEN RES, the Green Energy Electric has Cavite Economic milestone in industrial possible through a Ayala Group's retail Option Program. transitioned all five Zone to 100 percent sustainability in the renewable energy electricity arm, under The program of its manufacturing renewable energy, Philippines. supply agreement the government's allows large power consumers to choose renewable energy as their primary power source instead of relying on traditional distribution utilities.

The transition began in December 2025 and now covers Schneider Electric's offices and production sites in Cavite, which are primarily engaged in semiconductor manufacturing. The company said the

Turn to page 2



A police intelligence operative is wounded in the shooting incident in General Trias City, Cavite on Jan. 8.

Drug suspect arrested, cop injured in GenTri

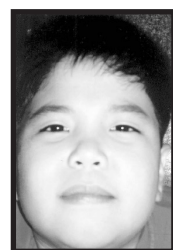
A buy-bust Police Station seized on the operating team. operation in General about 6.70 grams Officers returned Trias City, Cavite of suspected shabu fire, and Police on Jan. 8, led to the valued at P45,560, Corporal Ryan O. arrest of a street-level along with marked Vizmanos sustained drug suspect, while a buy-bust money and a gunshot wound. police intelligence drug paraphernalia, He was rushed to the operative was from the suspect. General Trias Doctors wounded in a separate

During the Medical Center for shooting incident near operation, police said treatment. Cavite the operation site. a shooting incident police identified the

The Cavite Police occurred roughly shooting suspect as Provincial Office 200 meters from the Patrolman Harvey said operatives from suspect's residence Perdito Mendoza, the General Trias after an individual a member of the Component City allegedly opened fire **Turn to page 2**

MIKMIK'S WORLD

• Nehemiah Ezekiel B. Barco



Perlas ng SILANGAN BALITA

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Publisher-Editor

ELISA B. BARCO
Sales, Marketing & Advertising Director

Perlas ng Silangan Balita is published weekly and circulated in the province of Cavite and throughout the Philippines. It has its editorial and business offices at Block 16 Lot 12 Good Family Homes Subdivision, Anabu I-A, City of Imus, Cavite. It is registered with the Department of Trade and Industry-Philippines under Certificate No. 04264737. Our landline is (046) 230-4335; cellphone is 0927-7989547 and e-mail is nestorsbarco@yahoo.com.ph

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(LTO...from page 1)

in Cavite. alarm during the

In a statement investigation, released on Jan. 6, preventing it from the LTO said it issued undergoing any a show-cause order transactions. It added directing the SUV that the vehicle owner driver and owner to violated compulsory appear before the vehicle registration agency's Intelligence rules after records and Investigation showed the SUV Division on Jan. 14. was last registered A widely circulated on June 7, 2024. video showed the The LTO also driver of a Ford issued a subpoena Everest damaging the to the registered bus' windshield wiper owner and driver and hurling curses at of the public utility the bus driver. bus, directing

The SUV driver them to attend the was ordered to hearing and submit explain why he their explanations. should not be The bus driver was administratively instructed to bring charged with reckless his driver's license driving and why and other relevant his driver's license documents. should not be revoked LTO Chief Markus for being an improper Lacanilao warned that person to operate a failure of the SUV motor vehicle. The driver and owner to LTO also suspended appear or submit a his driver's license verified explanation for 90 days and would be considered ordered its surrender a waiver of their on the day of the right to be heard, hearing. and that the case

The agency said would be decided the SUV would based on the available be placed under evidence.

Duty Free Philippine bets on airport upgrade for next growth phase

Duty Free the footprint of Duty a world-class, expanding its lineup Philippines Corp. Free and revive its tourism-supporting of luxury labels, (DFPC) is opening glory days through retailer. international brands, a new chapter in its expansion and new As part of its and emerging names, modernization drive offerings. There is modernization while opening its by strengthening strong potential in roadmap, DFPC is outlets to more its presence inside what's coming with rolling out major concessionaires the country's these changes," DFPC upgrades inside and brand partners. international officials said. Ninoy Aquino The result is a more airports as part of This includes the International Airport, dynamic and inclusive its long-term growth possible transition with expansion plans product mix — one strategy. away from Fiesta underway at both that ranges from

As part of this Mall — including Terminals 1 and 3. high-end exclusives shift, DFPC is in the site's aging At Terminal 3, the and global bestsellers discussions regarding layout and growing company is set to to Filipino-made the future of its maintenance needs scale up its retail goods and practical Fierna Mall lease in — and airport-based area from its current pasalubong — giving toward expanding aligned more closely as 6,000 square choice without its presence inside with global trends in meters, making it compromising the country's duty-free retail, where one of the largest value. airports. digital upgrades duty-free spaces in

DFPC said the and refreshed store the airport network expansion — it's review supports a formats are now and positioning it transformation," strategic realignment essential. Parallel to better serve the DFPC officials said. toward high-traffic to the ongoing growing volume "We're building travel locations transformation at of international stores that reflect and reflects the NAIA, DFPC is also travelers. how Filipino corporation's broader upgrading its stores DFPC is also travelers move, shop, modernization efforts. and services as it reshaping its retail and expect service "We want to grow pushes to remain experience by today."

(SCHNEIDER...from page 1)

move is expected to economic zones — badge, which is prevent nearly 11,600 and the first in East granted to companies tons of carbon dioxide Asia within its global operating entirely on emissions annually. network — to operate clean energy. The Schneider Electric entirely on renewable that are both reliable badge is currently said the achievement energy. and practical. 100 facilities supports its goal ACEN RES, which To recognize the nationwide and is of reaching net-zero holds the largest achievement, ACEN meant to highlight zero emissions and market share under RES awarded business' positions its Cavite the Green Energy Schneider Electric commitment to Smart Factory as one Option Program, its "Powered by sustainability and of the first in Luzon's said the partnership Renewable Energy" climate action.

(DRUG...from page 1)

Philippine National cartridge shells. Provincial Forensic Police Maritime where authorities the seized drugs, Unit in Imus City Group. recovered a firearm firearm, and ballistic for laboratory and ballistic examination. A follow-up with PNP markings, evidence were Both suspects remain operation led to his a magazine, and fired turned over to the in police custody.

**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
NAIC CAVITE
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
AND EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF**

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (HDMF)
Petitioner-Mortgagee,

FNC-2024-92

-versus-

JENELYN PERMOCILLE PADUA
Respondents-Mortgagors,
x-----x

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

WHEREAS, upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act No. 3135 as amended by Act No. 4118, filed by **HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (HDMF)** Mortgagee, with postal address at *Petron Mega Plaza Building, No. 358 Sen Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City*, against **JENELYN PERMOCILLE PADUA** with postal address at **BLK. 2 LOT 17 PPA ST. BRGY. LANDAYAN**, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness, which as of April 30, 2024, amounted to **FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY SEVEN THOUSAND SIX PESOS & 39/100 PESOS (P427,006.39)** Philippine Currency, excluding penalties, attorney's fees, and expenses of the foreclosure, the undersigned authorized Sheriff IV will sell at public auction on **January 20, 2026 at 9:00 in the morning** or soon thereafter at the Regional Trial Court, Naic, Cavite, to the highest bidder in **CASH** or **MANAGER'S CHECK** and in Philippine Currency the property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 057-2018028054

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED *that certain land situated in BARANGAY OF SABANG (FORMERLY TIMALAN) MUNICIPALITY OF NAIC, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUGON, bounded and described as follows:*

LOT NO: 11 **BLOCK NO:** 45 **PLAN NO:** PSD-04-246094
PORTION OF: SUBD. OF BLOCK 32, PCS-04-030597; LRC RECORD NO. 8340
LOCATION: BARANGAY OF SABANG (FORMERLY TIMALAN) MUNICIPALITY OF NAIC, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION
BOUNDARIES:

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT (S)
1-2	NW	ROAD LOT 9, PSD-04-246094
2-3	NE	LOT 10, BLOCK 45, PSD-04-246094
3-4	SE	LOT 2937, FLS-986-D (NAIC ESTATE)
4-1	SW	LOT 12, BLOCK 45, PSD-04-246094

TIE POINT: MON. NO. 17, NAIC ESTATE, PROVINCE OF CAVITE

LINE	BEARING	DISTANCE
TO CORNER 1	S. 40 ° 12' E	2662.65 M.
1-2	N. 60 ° 34' E	3.50 M.
2-3	S. 29 ° 26' E	8.00 M.
3-4	S. 60 ° 34' W	3.50 M.
4-1	N. 29 ° 26' W	8.00 M.

AREA: TWENTY EIGHT SQUARE METERS (28). MORE OR LESS

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above-stated time and date.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on **January 27, 2026** at the same time and at the same place mentioned above without further notice.

Prospective bidders/buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the said property and the encumbrance existing thereon, if any there be.

Municipality of Naic, Province of Cavite, November 27, 2025

(Sgd.) **JANELLE V. LAGADON, MBA**
Sheriff, IV

Copy furnished:

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (HDMF) - Petron Mega Plaza Building, No. 358 Sen Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

JENELYN PERMOCILLE PADUA - BLK. 2 LOT 17 PPA ST. BRGY. LANDAYAN

LOT 11 BLK. 45 PH. 2 PASINAYA HOMES SABANG NAIC CAVITE 4110

MARIA VICTORIA D. CAPIRAL % ATTY. CAESAR S. EUROPA, Attorney-in-Fact, 24K ACCOUNTS CONSULTANT, INC.

3F Fass Inteli College Bldg., No. 11. Pittsburgh St., Brgy. Silangan, Cubao, Quezon City

Publication : PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Dates : December 22, 29, 2025 and January 5, 2026

**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
DASMARIÑAS CITY, CAVITE**

**BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
(SUCCESSOR-IN-INTEREST OF
ROBINSONS BANK CORPORATION)**
Petitioner-Mortgagee, Creditor,

**File No. FC-DC-2002-25
EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE
UNDER ACT 3135, AS AMENDED
BY ACT 4118**

-versus-

**SPOUSES APOLLO C. SALMORIN
A.K.A. APOLLO CLAROS SAMORIN AND
MARICEL S. SALMORIN,**
Respondents-Mortgagors-Borrowers-Debtor
x-----x

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118 filed by the petitioner/mortgagee, **BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS (SUCCESSOR-IN-INTEREST OF ROBINSONS BANK CORPORATION.)** with postal address at BPI Buendia Center 27th Flr., BPI Buendia Center Bldg., 372 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Brgy. Bel-Air, Makati 1209 against the mortgagors **SPOUSES APOLLO C. SALMORIN A.K.A. APOLLO CLAROS SAMORIN AND MARICEL S. SALMORIN** with postal address at (1) Blk 16 Lot 4, Alta Tierra Homes Olaes, Gen. Mariano Alvarez, Cavite; (2) Lot 12 Block 2, Norfolk Ridge Residential Estates Greenwood Villages, Ph 7A, Brgy. Paliparan, Dasmariñas City, Cavite and for the satisfaction of the mortgaged debt which as of **NOVEMBER 28, 2025** amounts to **NINE MILLION THREE HUNDRED THIRTY THOUSAND SEVENTY THREE PESOS AND 51/100 (Php 9,330,073.51)**, exclusive of all legal fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned sheriff will sell at public auction on **MARCH 04, 2026** 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter in the lobby of Branch 90, Regional Trial Court, Ground Floor, Dasmariñas Community Affairs (DASCA) Building, Congressional Road, Buro I, Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite to the highest bidder and for **CASH** or **CERTIFIED CHECK**, in Philippine Currency, the following described real property together with all the buildings and other improvements existing thereon, to wit

**Transfer Certificate of Title
No. 057-2021010496**

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED *that certain land situated in BARANGAY OF PALIPARAN, MUNICIPALITY OF DASMARIÑAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON, bounded and described as follows:*

LOT NO: 12 **PLAN NO:** PCS-04-028276
PORTION OF: LOTS 16 & 17, BLK. 1, LOTS 1 & 13 BLK. 2, LOTS 1, TO 3 BLK. 3, ROAD LOTS 1, 6 & 7 PSD-04-170739, LOTS 1 TO 9 PCS-04-023936
LOCATION: BARANGAY OF PALIPARAN, MUNICIPALITY OF DASMARIÑAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON

BOUNDARIES:

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT (S)
1-2	NE	LOT 11, PCS-04-028276
2-3	SE	LOT 16 (ROAD LOT), PCS-04-028276
3-4-5	SE, SW	LOT 13, PCS-04-028276
5-1	NW	LOT 7289, IMUS ESTATE

TIE POINT: MON. NO. 81, IMUS ESTATE

LINE	BEARING	DISTANCE
TO CORNER 1	N. 01 ° 20' E	1599.04 M.
1-2	S. 70 ° 54' E	14.98 M.
2-3	S. 19 ° 06' W	14.18 M.
3-4	S. 89 ° 34' W	2.43 M.
4-5	N. 70 ° 48' W	12.69 M.
5-1	N. 19 ° 06' E	14.97 M.

AREA: TWO HUNDRED TWENTY FOUR SQUARE METERS (224), MORE OR LESS

is registered in accordance with the provision of the Property Registration Decree in the name of
Owner: SPOUSES APOLLO C. SALMORIN AND MARICEL S. SALMORIN, BOTH FILIPINOS, BOTH OF LEGAL AGE
Address: BLOCK 16 LOT 4 ALTA TIERRA HOMES GMA, CAVITE

Prospective buyers and/or bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title of the said real property and the encumbrance thereon, if there be any.

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above-stated time and date.

In the event that the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on **MARCH 18, 2026**, at the same time and place without further notice.

Dasmariñas City, Cavite, January 8, 2026.

(Sgd.) **ARLYN P. BARCELON**
Sheriff IV

(Sgd.) **ATTY. MARCELA L. BAYBAY**
Clerk of Court VI & Ex-Officio Sheriff

Copy furnished:

**BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
(SUCCESSOR-IN-INTEREST OF ROBINSONS BANK**

CORPORATION.)
BPI Buendia Center 27th Flr., BPI Buendia Center Bldg., 372 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Brgy. Bel-Air, Makati 1209

**SPOUSES APOLLO C. SALMORIN
A.K.A. APOLLO CLAROS SAMORIN AND
MARICEL S. SALMORIN**
(1) Blk 16 Lot 4, Alta Tierra Homes Olaes, Gen. Mariano Alvarez, Cavite;
(2) Lot 12 Block 2, Norfolk Ridge Residential Estates Greenwood Villages, Ph 7A, Brgy. Paliparan, Dasmariñas City, Cavite

Notice posted at:
1.The Bulletin Board of Regional Trial Court, Dasmariñas City, Cavite
2.The Bulletin Board of Dasmariñas City Hall
3.The Bulletin Board of Dasmariñas City Post Office
4.The Bulletin Board of Dasmariñas City Public Market

Raffle Date of Judicial Notices: Dec. 23, 2025

Publication : PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Dates : January 12, 19 & 26, 2026

the Philippines may import as much as 3.8 million metric tons of rice in 2026, as domestic production is expected to remain flat while demand continues to rise.

At a press briefing on Jan. 8, Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. said the year is projected at 3.6 million metric tons and up to 3.8 million metric tons at maximum, assuming production levels stay the same as in 2025.

“Our projected rice importations for this year, assuming our production remains the same as of last year, is 3.6 million tons minimum and maybe maximum of 3.8 million tons because, of course, our population is increasing,” Tiu Laurel said in a mix of English and Filipino. Data from the Bureau of Plant Industry showed that rice importation declined by 30% in 2025, falling to 3.37 million metric tons from 4.8 million metric tons in 2024.

Trying to assuage worries of citizens over rice prices, Tiu Laurel said the department is seeking to prevent another surge by expanding the implementation of the P20-per-kilo rice program. Under the program, households will be allowed to purchase up to 10 kilos of rice per month to help temper inflationary pressures, he said.

The P20-per-kilo rice program is being implemented under the DA’s declaration of a food security emergency, which remains in effect.

Tiu Laurel said the 2026 national budget allocated P10 billion for the rice subsidy program, with an additional P4 billion in unused funds carried over from 2025.

He also confirmed that rice tariffs have been raised to 20%, with the increase set to take effect on Jan. 16.

Philippines plans 2026 imports of 3.8M tons of rice as supply fears linger

he Department of Agriculture said

EXTRA JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE OF EMITERIO N. REYES AND AMOR B. REYES

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late **EMITERIO N. REYES** and **AMOR B. REYES** who both died intestate on 08 April 1996 in Somerset, New Jersey, and on September 18, 2022 at 381 ES Gabriel St., Palico 1, Imus City, Cavite, respectively, consisting of certain real and personal properties, to wit:

1. One half (1/2) of the following properties which was acquired by EMITERIO N. REYES and AMOR B. REYES while they were married:
 - a. Land located at Kawit, Cavite under TCT Nos. T-28187 (FMV 437,500.00PHP)
 - b. Land located at Kawit, Cavite under TCT Nos. T-15844 (FMV 437,500.00PHP)
 - c. Land located at Imus Cavite under TCT Nos. T-108922 (FMV 4,116,000.00PHP)
 - d. Land Located at Imus Cavite with TCT Nos. T-108923 (FMV 4,116,000.00PHP)
 - e. Land located at Imus Cavite with TCT Nos. T-0572019035220 (FMV 812,500.00PHP)
 - f. Land located at Bacoor Cavite with TCT Nos. T-269258 (FMV 1,109,669.00PHP)
 - g. Land located at Bayan Luma, Imus, Cavite with TCT Nos. 241861 (FMV 582,500.00PHP)
 - h. Building located at Lot 44 Blk 4 Camella Homes, Salinas, Bacoor City with (FMV) at 637,410.00PHP
 - i. Building (Residential) located at Imus Cavite (FMV 122,040.00PHP)
 - j. Building (Residential) Located at Imus Cavite (FMV 451,575.00PHP)
 - k. Building located at Imus Cavite Palico (FMV 266,600.00PHP)
 - l. Building located at Imus Cavite Palico (FMV 810,000.00PHP)

WHEREAS, the total fair market value of the estate left by the decedent amounts to 13,899,294.00PHP per Tax Declaration

has been adjudicated and extra-judicially settled by and among their heirs in the following manners:

1. To the illegitimate daughters, the land and the building located in Palico 1 Imus City and covered by TCT Nos. 057-2019035220 with total fair market value of 812,500.00PHP and 451,575PHP (as per Tax Declaration).

- a. To DERLYNE REYES OÑA a 124 SQM of the land located at Palico 1, Imus Cavite covered with TCT Nos. 057-2019035220
- b. To MARIA CORAZON REYES SAULER 101 SQM of the land located at Palico 1, Imus Cavite covered with TCT Nos. 057-2019035220
- c. To EMILY REYES VILLASEÑOR 100SQM of the land located at Palico 1, Imus Cavite covered with TCT Nos. 057-2019035220

2. To REGINO IRWIN B. REYES and MELVIN B. REYES to have full ownership on the following properties and to share all equally:

- m. Land located at Kawit Cavite under TCT Nos. T-28187
- n. Land Located at Kawit Cavite under TCT Nos. T-15844
- o. Land Located at Imus Cavite under TCT Nos. T-108922
- p. Land Located at Imus Cavite with TCT Nos. T-108923
- q. Building (Residential) located at Imus Cavite (Standing on TCT Nos. T-108923)
- r. Land located at Bacoor Cavite with TCT Nos. T-269258
- s. Building located at Lot 44 Blk 4 Camella Homes, Salinas, Bacoor City. (Standing at land with TCT Nos. T-269258)
- t. Building (Residential) located at Imus Cavite (Standing at land with TCT Nos. T-108922)
- u. Land located at Bayan Luma, Imus, Cavite with TCT Nos. 241861 (FMV 582,500.00)
- v. Building (Commercial) located at Bacoor City, Cavite
- w. Building (Commercial) located at Imus Cavite Palico

The rationale in the division stated above is to avoid co-ownership on the properties by the legitimate brothers and illegitimate sisters on properties that originally belongs to the legitimate family.

Both REGINO IRWIN B. REYES and MELVIN B. REYES waives in favor of their half-sisters any amount that exceeds the legitimate that their sisters received on the above agreed partition.

In the same manner that DERLYNE REYES OÑA, MARIA CORAZON REYES SAULER, EMILY REYES VILLASEÑOR waives in favor of their half-brothers any amount that exceeds the legitimate that their brothers received on the above agreed partition

on September 8, 2025 at Bacoor City, Cavite before Notary Public Atty. Antonio T. Nicolas and entered in his Notarial Register as Doc. No. 02; Page No. 02; Book No. IX; Series of 2025.

(Sgd.) **All Heirs**

Publication : PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Dates : December 29, 2025, January 5 & 12, 2026

ROW for metro subway 90 percent cleared at end-2025

The Department of Transportation (DOTr) has secured 90 percent of the right of way or ROW for the Metro Manila Subway Project (MMSp) as of the end of 2025, picking up the slack for a railway that is now behind by years. Based on its year-end report, the DOTr

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE OF THE LATE DARWIN PANCIPANCI y BONGALOS

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late **DARWIN PANCIPANCI y BONGALOS** who died intestate on July 02, 2025, consisting of the following properties:

- a. A conjugal share over a real property of considerable value which is a parcel of lot with improvements comprising of THIRTY-SIX (36) SQUARE METERS situated at Blk 10 Lot 8 Annex A, Greengate Homes, Malagasang 1-G, Imus, Cavite and covered by TCT. No. 057-2013027829 of the Registry of Deeds of Province of Cavite;
- b. A personal property consisting of a motor vehicle, a motorcycle which briefly described as follows:

Make : Honda	Engine No. : JF78E7157125
Plate No. : _____	Chassis No.: MH1JF787XKK157534
Body Type: MOTORCYCLE	Year Model : 2019
Series : ACH110CSFKII	File No. : 1303-0000934515

has been adjudicated and extrajudicially settled by and among his heirs *in pro-indiviso* equal shares on November 13, 2025 in Imus, Cavite, Philippines before Notary Public Atty. Marvyn L. Maristela and entered in his Notarial Register as Doc. No. 460; Page No. 93; Book No. CLXXXVI; Series of 2025.

(Sgd.) **Surviving Spouse and Surviving minor children assisted by their guardian, AILEEN B. PANCIPANCI, the mother**

Publication : PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Dates : January 12, 19 & 26, 2026

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE OF THE LATE SPS. BELLA R. BRION AND ROLANDO R. BRION

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the deceased **BELLA R. BRION** and **ROLANDO R. BRION** who both died intestate on July 8, 2003 at Manila and on July 15, 2011 at Dasmariñas City, Cavite, respectively, consisting of a parcel of land situated in the Brgy. Salawag, Mun. of Dasmariñas, Prov. of Cavite with an area of SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY (750) SQUARE METERS, covered by TCT No. T-796382 has been adjudicated and extrajudicially settled by and between their heirs equally on January 8, 2026 at the City of Dasmariñas, Cavite before Notary Public Atty. Reina M. Villa and entered in her Notarial Register as Doc. No. 474; Page No. 95; Book No. 488; Series of 2026.

(Sgd.) **Both Heirs**

Publication : PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Dates : January 12, 19 & 26, 2026

ERRATUM

As per Notice of Extra-Judicial Foreclosure of Real Estate Mortgage filed by **HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (HDMF)** against **JENELYN PERMOCILLE PADUA** published in the three (3) consecutive issues of **PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA** dated December 22-28, 2025; December 29, 2025-January 4, 2026 and January 5-11, 2026, the foreclosure case number should have read: **FNC-2024-92**.

– *The Editor*

has acquired 90.76 percent of ROW for the subway as of 2025, with properties cleared in business districts and exclusive villages. Prior to leadership changes in the DOTr in February 2025, the agency had cleared just 51 percent of ROW for the MMSp, with backlogs piling up primarily in Ortigas.

Since then, the DOTr has sped up its ROW acquisition in major bottlenecks, including the Varilla Properties. Afterward, the agency addressed ROW issues in Ortigas, resolving land and valuation conflicts in

Corinthian Gardens, Metrowalk and White Plains. Given this, acting Transportation Secretary Giovanni Lopez views 2025 as a banner year for the DOTr in ROW procurement. He said it would benefit commuters the most if ROW problems in the MMSp and the North-South Commuter Railway (NSCR) are settled.

“In 2025, it really was a banner year for ROW efforts because we accelerated land acquisition, so that commuters can use the subway and the NSCR

AUCTION SALE

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Head Office

Stall No.5, Pasillo G, Imus Public Market Tanzang Luma, Imus City, Cavite (4103) on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Trece Martirez City Branch

213 San Agustin St., Trece Martirez City (4109) on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Gen. Trias Branch

Block 43-A, Lot 4C, Brookside Lane, San Francisco Gen. Trias, Cavite (4107) on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Salawag Branch

Salawag, Dasmariñas City, Cavite (4114) on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Bayan Luma Branch

L 2, B 2 Dona Dionisia Subd., Bayan Luma II, Imus City, Cavite (4103) on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Imus Public Market Branch

Stall #14 & #16 Bakery Section, Imus Public Market Imus City, Cavite (4103) on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Palico IV Branch

Palico IV, Imus City, Cavite (4103) on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC. - Silang Branch

#007 Madlangasacay Street, Silang Cavite on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Golden City Branch

In Front of Golden City 3, 4, & 5 gate, Imus City, Cavite (4103) on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC.- Area G Branch

B61 L 3, Area G-2, Brgy. San Juan, Dasmariñas City, Cavite (4114) on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC. - Alapan Branch

Unit D, Lot 1-E, Alapan 1-A, Imus City, Cavite on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC. - Marycris Branch

Ph. 1 B57 Lot 7, Marycris Complex, Gen. Trias Cavite (4107) on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC. - Buhay na Tubig Branch

106 Buhay na Tubig, Imus City, Cavite (4103) January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC. - Bacoor Branch

Unit D, Navarrete Compound Aguinaldo Hi-way 17 Panapaan, Bacoor City, Cavite on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC. - Bayanan Branch

678 Terminal Express Stall #4 Bldg. D, Molino, Blvd. cor. Brgy. Mambog IV Rd. Bayanan, Bacoor City, Cavite on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC. - Manggahan Branch

343 Crisanto St. Manggahan, Gen. Trias, Cavite on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC. - Puregold Branch

Puregold Aguinaldo Hiway, Anabu Coastal, Imus City, Cavite on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC. - Bucandala Branch

Brgy. Bucandala, Imus City, Cavite on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC. - CitiHomes Branch

B15 L38 CitiHomes Resortville, Langkaan 2, Dasmariñas City, Cavite on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP INC. - Malagasang Branch

104 Malagasang 1-C, Imus City, Cavite (4103) on January 25-27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for unredeemed pawned of August 2025.

Julio R. Peña - Auctioneer

as soon as possible,” for the northern segment Lopez said. Further, of the NSCR, with the the DOTr made progress number of acquired in ROW acquisition for properties climbing the northern line of the to 1,143 parcels in NSCR, ending 2025 December 2025, from with about 56 percent of 38 prior. Lopez said the alignment cleared. the DOTr is scheduled In February 2025, to complete ROW for the DOTr secured only NSCR’s northern end two percent of the land by mid-2026.

Philippines evacuates 3,000 people after activity increases at Mayon Volcano

Philippines evacuates 3,000 people after activity increases at Mayon Volcano

A series of mild eruptions at the country's most active volcano prompted authorities to evacuate nearly 3,000 residents from communities located within a danger zone along Mayon Volcano's foothills, officials said on Jan. 7.

The five-step alert system around Mayon in Albay province was raised to Alert Level 3 on Jan. 6 after monitoring teams recorded intermittent rockfalls from the crater, some as large as cars, along with pyroclastic flows —

fast-moving avalanches of extremely hot rock fragments, ash, and gas.

Alert Level 5, the highest warning, would signal that a major explosive eruption is already underway, typically accompanied by violent ash ejections and widespread ashfall.

Chief volcanologist Teresito Bacolcol said the volcano is already erupting, though quietly, as lava continues to accumulate near the summit. The growing lava dome has cracked in some areas, triggering rockfalls that rolled down the

slopes. Bacolcol said it remains too early to determine whether the unrest will escalate into a major eruption, noting the absence of other key warning signs such as a surge in volcanic earthquakes and high sulfur dioxide emissions.

According to Albay provincial officials, troops, police officers, and disaster response personnel helped evacuate more than 2,800 residents from 729 households within a six-kilometer radius of the crater, an area long declared a permanent danger zone and marked by concrete warning signs. Another 600

residents living outside the danger zone chose to evacuate voluntarily to government-run emergency shelters, said Claudio Yucot, regional director of the Office of Civil Defense.

Although entry into the danger zone is prohibited, thousands of residents have continued to live or farm there for generations. Businesses such as sand and gravel quarrying and sightseeing tours have also operated openly despite the ban and the volcano's frequent eruptions, now totaling 54 since records began in 1616.

Rising 2,462 meters, Mayon is famed for its near-perfect cone and remains one of the Philippines' top tourist attractions. It is also the most active among the country's 24 potentially dangerous volcanoes.

A stark reminder of its destructive past is the bell tower of a 16th-century Franciscan church that still protrudes from the ground in Albay. It is the only remnant of a baroque church buried by volcanic mudflows during the 1814 eruption that destroyed the town of Cagsawa and killed about 1,200 people. Officials said the continued presence

of communities within Mayon's danger zone reflects the broader situation of many impoverished Filipinos who are forced to live in hazardous areas across the archipelago — near active volcanoes, landslide-prone slopes, vulnerable coastlines, earthquake fault lines, and flood-prone lowlands.

Each year, the Philippines is battered by around 20 typhoons and storms, a consequence of its location along the Pacific "Ring of Fire," a region frequently affected by volcanic eruptions and earthquakes.

Congressional oversight next step towards budget transparency – solon

Congressional oversight next step towards budget transparency – solon

Bicol Saro party-list Rep. Terry Ridon said congressional oversight through hearings will be critical in ensuring transparency in the newly signed P6.793-trillion national budget for 2026.

Ridon said public participation throughout budget implementation is also essential to hold the government accountable for how funds are spent.

"With the signing of the 2026 General Appropriations Act, congressional oversight and public participation

at all levels of budget implementation are now the main drivers to ensure that the national government and its agencies remain committed to transparency and accountability in the use of public funds," said Ridon, who heads the House committee on public accounts.

"The House public accounts committee — the main congressional oversight committee on public expenditure — will work with various departments and agencies in implementing their projects and programs. This includes monitoring and observing procurement

activities at every stage and at every level," he added.

Ridon said the committee will closely monitor projects implemented by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Health (DOH), and Department of Agriculture (DA), particularly DPWH's commitment to livestream procurement activities.

"We will press the DPWH to deliver on its commitment to livestream all procurement activities at the national, regional, and district levels, and we

call on other agencies to do the same," he said.

"We will closely monitor the direct implementation by the DepEd and the DA of their school-building and farm-to-market road programs, respectively, to ensure that the problems experienced during previous DPWH implementation will not happen again. This includes ensuring that blacklisted DPWH contractors will not be able to participate in DepEd and DA procurement activities," he added.

Ridon said the committee will also seek assistance from the

Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), and Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB) to strengthen procurement processes.

"Agencies will also be asked to adopt stricter qualification standards for prospective bidders. An established track record for delivering specific projects should be an indispensable requirement. The prohibition on using another entity's procurement license must be strictly enforced, with

corresponding consequences for violations, such as outright blacklisting and the filing of criminal complaints," he said.

"We will call on the DBM, DICT, and GPPB to assist agencies in effectively shifting to primarily online procurement activities, to limit personnel intervention throughout the process," he added.

Despite reforms, several lawmakers expressed concerns over retained unprogrammed appropriations in the 2026 budget, with some calling the veto of certain items insufficient.

Supervision fees set for NBFIs

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) has imposed an annual supervision fees on non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs) with trust authority as part of amendments to the central bank's regulations on trust and other fiduciary activities.

In Circular 1228, the BSP said the Monetary Board approved the amendment of the Manual of Regulations for Non-Bank Financial Institutions (MORNBFIs) to "provide guidelines on annual supervision fees for NBFIs with trust authority." Under the new rules, "an NBFIs with trust authority shall pay to the BSP an annual supervision

fee equivalent to one twenty-eighth (1/28) of one percent multiplied by its average assessable assets in the preceding year." The circular defined average assessable assets as "the sum of month-end balances of total assessable assets divided by the number of months in operation during a particular assessment period," adding that total assessable assets refer to "the total assets under management by the trust department, excluding securities held under custodianship."

The BSP said the annual supervision fee "shall be paid by NBFIs with trust authority on or before May 31 of every year," warning

that "non-payment of the supervision fee within the prescribed period shall subject the concerned NBFIs with trust authority to administrative sanctions."

The central bank also clarified that the guidelines on the collection of the annual supervision fee are provided in a new appendix of the MORNBFIs. Under these rules, the appropriate supervising department of the BSP will send a billing notice indicating, among others, "the computation of the ASF due, the period covered by the ASF, and the mode of payment."

Upon receipt of the notice, NBFIs are encouraged "to check

the accuracy of the billing and to submit the noted exceptions therein not later than 10 banking days before the specified deadline of payment," with any exception received after the cut-off date to be considered in the computation of the fee for the immediately succeeding year.

The circular further stated that pursuant to Bureau of Internal Revenue regulations, "the income derived by the BSP, including but not limited to supervisory fees, shall be exempt from national internal revenue taxes," adding that NBFIs with trust authority "no longer need to withhold tax on their payment of ASF to the Bangko Sentral."

Peso hits new record low as dollar stays strong

The peso slumped to another all-time low on Jan. 7 as the dollar remained firm and expectations of further domestic rate cuts continued to weigh on the local currency.

Data from the Bankers Association of the Philippines (BAP) showed that the local currency dipped by 14.5 centavos to close at 59.355 against the dollar from its 59.21 finish on Jan. 6.

This is weaker than the close recorded on Dec. 9, when the peso reached a previous record low of 59.22 versus the greenback.

A trader said the peso's weakness on Jan. 7 was "largely a story of firm dollar strength and shifting rate expectations at home."

The peso's slide comes as the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) signaled it is nearing the end of its easing cycle, leaving the door open to a possible final rate cut at the Monetary Board's February meeting.

"With markets pricing in further easing while US yields stay elevated, carry demand for the peso has weakened," the trader said.

"Near term, the currency is likely to remain soft and trade stability hinging on clearer policy signals

and sustained inflows from remittances and tourism." BSP Governor Eli Remolona Jr. recently said the central bank is already very close to its desired policy rate level, noting that while another cut remains possible, holding rates steady is also on the table, and a hike is effectively off the table for now. He said policy moves would continue to be guided by incoming data and risks to the inflation outlook, stressing that the most likely scenarios are either no further cut or just one more reduction.

He added that cutting rates twice more this year would only be warranted if economic conditions turn out to be significantly worse than expected, such as if growth comes in below five percent in 2026. The BSP has slashed policy rates by a total of 200 basis points since it began its easing cycle in August 2024, bringing the key rate down to 4.50 percent from a peak of 6.50 percent. Remolona also noted that the peso sliding back to the 59-per-dollar level was due to investors turning cautious after the United States launched a military strike against Venezuela over the other weekend.

LTO scraps registration fees for motorcycle top boxes, saddle bags

The Land Transportation Office (LTO) announced that it will stop collecting registration fees for custom-made motorcycle top boxes and saddle bags to help riders who depend on motorcycles for work.

In a statement on Jan. 5, the LTO said Chief Markus Lacanilao signed a memorandum removing the P100 registration fee previously charged for every top box or saddle bag installed

on motorcycles. "This will be a huge help to our riders who rely on their motorcycles for their livelihood, as it removes additional expenses," he said.

Despite the removal of fees, Lacanilao emphasized that registration will remain mandatory for motorcycles with custom-made attachments. He explained that registration is part of the agency's responsibility to ensure that motorcycles with

added equipment remain safe and within engine capability limits.

Lacanilao said the policy is aligned with the LTO's 7-Point Policy Agenda, which aims to eliminate unnecessary payments while easing financial pressure on the public, without compromising road safety.

Instead of issuing official receipts, the LTO will now provide certifications as proof of registration for top boxes and saddle bags. The agency said

its central office will determine the specific process for issuing these certifications.

The LTO also said all existing orders, memoranda, and policies that conflict with the new directive will be amended accordingly. Regional directors, officials, and inspection center heads were instructed to fully implement the memorandum and assist motorcycle owners to ensure that registrations are processed without delays.

De Lima, Erice ask Supreme Court to strike down P150-B unprogrammed funds

Minority prohibition, requesting lawmakers filed a petition before the Supreme Court on Jan. 8 seeking to nullify P150 billion in unprogrammed appropriations included in the 2026 national budget, arguing that the funds are unconstitutional.

Rep. Leila de Lima and Rep. Edgar Erice filed a petition for certiorari and

the issuance of a temporary restraining order and other reliefs to stop the use of unprogrammed funds. The petition cites five provisions of the 1987 Constitution, arguing that unprogrammed appropriations lack a definite funding source and should not be included in the budget.

“Since the budget consists of line item, the Unprogrammed Appropriations which are lump-sum in character, deviates (sic) from the line-item appropriations,” the petition read. The lawmakers cited constitutional limits on budget ceilings and requirements for clearly identified expenditures and

sources of financing. These provisions were also referenced in a Supreme Court opinion involving the transfer of PhilHealth reserve funds.

“They allow the government to spend beyond its declared means under the guise of ‘excess revenue,’ creating an unregulated space where public funds can be moved like chess

pieces without the rigor of the standard legislative process,” the petition read.

The petition noted that unprogrammed appropriations have existed since 1989 but have significantly increased in recent years.

“Left unchecked, Section XLIII (of the 2026 GAA) will operate as a constitutional

workaround, allowing public funds to be released and spent outside the discipline imposed by the Constitution,” the petitioners said.

“Because public expenditures, once made, are irreversible, immediate judicial intervention is imperative to prevent grave and irreparable injury to the public treasury,” it added.

Only 65 percent of farm-to-market roads completed in 5 years

Only 65 percent of the 4,810 farm-to-market road (FMR) projects under the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) were completed from 2021 to 2025, according to the Department of Agriculture (DA).

Only 3,135 projects were completed in the past five years, according to preliminary FMR data the DA shared with the media through its transparency platform, which is currently in beta testing. Data showed that at least 817 FMR projects have not commenced while 34 projects have been deferred, according to the DA.

Meanwhile, there are at least 677 ongoing funded FMR projects during the five-year period. There are still at

least 27 FMR projects funded in 2021 that are ongoing while there are three more financed in 2022 that are yet to be completed, based on the database. Data also showed that there are still 28 ongoing FMR projects funded in 2023, 213 projects in 2024 and 406 projects under the 2025 budget. The DA is updating and refining the database since it is still in its beta stage. The DA plans to publicly launch the transparency platform, dubbed FMR Watch, by February. The platform features real-time project monitoring and updates as well as detailed financial information and budget for every FMR project. The public can access these for free and is encouraged to

scrutinize the FMR projects and subsequently provide feedback and even complaints to the DA. Each project has been geotagged with proper progress documentation from the start of procurement up to its completion.

The DA vowed to respond to citizens’ complaints regarding FMR projects within 24 hours once the transparency portal has been rolled out. Throughout the five-year period, the government allocated P76.52 billion for all the 4,810 FMR projects. The 3,135 completed FMR projects were equivalent to nearly 2,400 kilometers of road. Based on its estimates, at least 721,500 farmers have benefitted from

Meralco looking at modest growth in 2026 power sales

Pangilinan-led Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) is targeting modest power sales growth in 2026 for its distribution utility (DU) business, aiming to rebound from flat results last year.

“Our target for this year is three percent sales growth,” Meralco chief revenue officer Ferdinand Geluz told reporters on Jan. 8.

The company is counting on a rebound in sales from existing customers as temperatures are projected to normalize starting in the second quarter. With 180,000 new customers added, Geluz expects Meralco’s energy sales to gain

further momentum.

As the country’s biggest private distribution utility, Meralco currently serves over eight million customers in Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

Last year, Meralco revised its power sales growth forecast down to one to two percent from the earlier four to 4.5 percent projection, but it still appeared to have fallen short of that target.

Citing indicative results, Geluz said the Meralco DU saw power sales dip to 53,257 gigawatt-hours in 2025 from 53,606 GWh a year earlier. Sales from residential and

commercial customers both declined last year, while a slight increase in the industrial segment offered the lone bright spot for Meralco. In particular, residential and commercial sales fell by two percent and 0.5 percent, respectively, while industrial sales posted a one-percent gain.

“We are still in the process of closing analysis of our sales figures. Official figures may be out next week,” the Meralco official said. For 2026, the company is setting aside up to P30 billion in capital expenditures to further improve and strengthen its distribution networks.

the completed FMR projects across 2,400 communities nationwide,

saving them 7,800 hours in transportation time while allowing

them to move 240,000 metric tons of produce, according to the DA.



Dollar reserves hit \$110.9 billion in Dec

The country's gross international reserves (GIR) settled at \$110.9 billion as of end-December 2025, slightly lower month-on-month but still higher than a year earlier and well above the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP)'s own projection for the year.

Based on preliminary data from the central bank, the latest forex buffer remained higher by 4.3 percent than the \$106.26 billion in December 2024, marking its third straight year of increase. The end-2025 level also exceeded the BSP's earlier projection of \$105 billion for the year, underscoring the country's still comfortable external buffer.

After hitting \$110.12 billion in 2020, the buffer declined to \$108.79 billion in 2021 and \$96.15 billion in 2022, before picking up to \$103.75 in 2023 and to \$106.26 billion in 2024.

On a monthly basis, dollar reserves slipped by 0.3 percent from the \$111.25 billion in November 2025.

RCCB chief economist Michael Ricafort said the month-on-month decline was

due to the 1.1-percent drop in foreign investments to \$87 billion in December last year.

However, this was "positively offset by the continued month-on-month increase in gold holdings by \$552 million or 3.1 percent to a new record high of \$18.577 billion," Ricafort said.

The economist noted that world gold prices gained 1.9 percent month-on-month in December 2025 and "posted a new record high of \$4,549.92 per ounce on Dec. 26, 2025," helping lift the value of the BSP's gold holdings.

BSP Governor Eli Remolona Jr. said the rise in the value of the central bank's gold holdings reflected higher global gold prices rather than any gold trading by the BSP during the month.

Remolona also addressed the BSP's strategy on holding gold as part of the reserves, stressing that the central bank does not speculate on the metal's price.

"We don't speculate on the price of gold. What we do is we hold gold as a modest proportion of our reserves and we hold gold as a hedge against

what we call event risk," he said.

He added that the BSP simply maintains a proportion of gold in its reserves as protection against adverse global events, reinforcing the role of the GIR as a buffer for the economy during periods of financial market stress.

The latest reserve level provides a robust external liquidity buffer equivalent to 7.4 months' worth of imports of goods and payments of services and primary income. It also covers about four times the country's short-term external debt based on residual maturity.

GIR are composed of foreign-denominated securities, foreign exchange and other assets including gold. It is also used to help finance imports and foreign debt obligations, stabilize the currency and provide a buffer against external shocks.

Ricafort said the relatively high level of reserves is important amid bouts of volatility in the local foreign exchange market. He cited that the peso reached a new record low of 59.38 against the dollar on Jan. 7.

Jobless rate declines to 4.4% in November

Unemployment in the country declined in November 2025 compared to the previous month, while underemployment also eased, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).

Results of the PSA's Labor Force Survey presented by National Statistician Dennis Mapa on Jan. 7 showed that the country's unemployment rate dropped to 4.4 percent in November 2025 from five percent in October 2025, but rose from 3.2 percent in November 2024.

This translates to 2.25 million jobless Filipinos in November 2025, down from 2.54 million in October 2025. However, the number of unemployed Filipinos in November 2025 went up compared to the 1.66 million without work in the same month in 2024. The country's employment rate rose to 95.6 percent in November 2025 from 95 percent in October 2025, but dipped from 96.8 percent in November 2024.

An estimated 49.26 million Filipinos were employed in November 2025, up from 48.62 million a month ago, but lower than the 49.54 million in November 2024.

Job quality improved as the underemployment rate eased to 10.4 percent in November 2025 from 12 percent in October 2025 and 10.8 percent

in November 2024. There were 5.11 million underemployed Filipinos or those who want additional jobs or work hours in November 2025, down from 5.81 million in October 2025 and 5.35 million in November 2024.

The labor force participation rate went up to 64 percent in November 2025 from 63.6 percent in October 2025, but declined from 64.6 percent in November 2024.

Industries with the largest month-on-month increase in jobs in November 2025 were other service activities (621,000); wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (356,000); education (173,000); construction (143,000) and accommodation and food service activities (90,000).

On the other hand, those which saw the biggest month-on-month drop in employment in November 2025 were agriculture and forestry (-517,000); public administration and defense, compulsory social security (-121,000); fishing and aquaculture (-78,000); financial and insurance activities (-73,000) and manufacturing (-64,000).

While the expectation is for employment to pick up year-on-year in the months leading to the holiday season, Mapa said there were two typhoons that hit the

country in November. "So our reading is that because of these typhoons, there was a slowdown in economic activities related to tourism, in accommodation services and retail trade," he said.

The accommodation and food service activities sector shed 309,000 jobs year-on-year in November 2025, while wholesale and retail trade saw a 258,000 drop in employment over the same period.

To strengthen the labor market, the Department of Economy, Planning and Development (DEPDev) said the government is stepping up efforts to enhance workforce competitiveness and business resilience.

"The government is prioritizing investments in skills development, lifelong learning and social protection systems to enable workers to transition across sectors and withstand economic shocks. Strengthening workforce competitiveness is one of the key elements to attract investments that generate quality jobs," DEPDev Secretary Arsenio Balisacan said.

To minimize business disruptions and protect workers during severe weather events, the government will help establishments craft and implement business continuity and resiliency plans.